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**Tennessee State Library and Archives**  
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**LAUGHLIN, SAMUEL HERVEY  
PAPERS  
(1796—1850)**

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## INTRODUCTION

The papers of Samuel H. Laughlin (1796-1850), editor of the *Nashville Union*, 1832-1837; Tennessee State Senator, 1840-1843; and Recorder of the United States General Land Office, 1845-1850, are part of the collections of the Tennessee Historical Society. The donor is unknown,

The materials in this collection measure .42 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials.

Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Samuel H. Laughlin Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Samuel H. Laughlin Papers contain approximately 75 items for the dates 1823—1850, the majority of which is correspondence. These letters, with a few exceptions, were written to Samuel H. Laughlin and other members of the Central State Committee in reply to and invitation to attend the Democratic mass meeting to be held in Nashville on August 15, 1844. Laughlin wrote at the top of almost all of the letters information about the author and comments about the political beliefs of some of them. The letters are full of statements about national politics with especial references to James Knox Polk and Martin Van Buren. The correspondents include Robert Armstrong, C.G. Atherton, B.A. Bidlack, James Black, William C. Bouck, James B. Bowlin, Miles N. Carpenter, John Carson, John G. Chapman, Edwin Croswell, Amasa Dana, Major Auguste Davezac, Moses Fairfield, James Garland, Charles G. Greene, Benjamin F. Hallett, Thomas L. Hamer, Hugh A. Haralson, John T.A. Henderson, James M. Howry, David Hubbard, E.W. Hubbard, A. Huntsman, Charles J. Ingersoll, Preston King, Robert Latham, John Law, Nelson S. Laughlin, R. McClelland, J.J. McDowell, George McDuffie, John McKown, W.B. Maclay, Marcus Morton, James Page, Robert Paine, F.W. Pickens, A.S. Porter, R.M. Sauders, Sam Simons, Thomas Smith, Van Antwerp, Aaron Vanderpoel, R.J. Walker, Campbell P. White, Willaim McLin White, W.C. Whitthorne, Hampton C. Williams, J.W. Wilson, Levi Woodbury, H.B. Wright, A.H. Wynne, H. Yoakum, and James C. Zabriskie. Also included in the collection are a few personal letters of Samuel H. Laughlin.

## Biographical Note

### Samuel Hervey Laughlin

- 1796        Born in Virginia, the son of John Laughlin and Sarah Duncan
- 1811        Moved from Virginia to Tennessee at age 15 years and became a clerk in a store Warren County
- Studied law in Murfreesboro, Tennessee
- 1832-1837   Editor of the *Nashville Union*
- 1840        Delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Baltimore, Maryland - one of the “Immortal Thirteen”
- 1841        Member of the Tennessee General Assembly
- 1840-1843   Member of the Tennessee State Senate
- 1845-1850   Recorder of the United States General Land Office, Washington, D.C.
- 1850        Died in Washington, D.C.
- Children: Samuel Houston, Ellen, Isabella, Mary, John, James, Andrew Jackson, Sarah Louise, and Cora Kezer.

## Container List

### **Microfilm Reel # 1**

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4. Correspondence – Bidlack – Bowlin
5. Correspondence – Carpenter – Croswell
6. Correspondence – Dana – Dix
7. Correspondence – Edwards – Fairfield
8. Correspondence – Garland – Hamer
9. Correspondence – Haralson – Huntsman
10. Correspondence – Ingersoll – Laughlin
11. Correspondence – McClelland – McKown
12. Correspondence – McCloy – Morton
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17. Correspondence – William – Wynne
18. Correspondence – Yoakum – Zabriskie

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